CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A method, comprising the steps of:

pre-scanning a color reference swatch with a scanner to produce color reference data for the scanner;

pre-building a scanner specific color profile for the scanner based on the color reference data; and

pre-storing the scanner specific color profile in the scanner.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the pre-scanning, pre-building and pre-storing steps are performed by color management software of a manufacturer of the scanner.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the scanner comprises a non-professional scanner.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

automatically performing color correction for the scanner based on the scanner specific color profile.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the performing step occurs with each scanning cycle of the scanner.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the color reference swatch comprises a CMYK swatch.

7. A method, comprising the steps of:

scanning a color reference swatch and an image during a scanning cycle of scanner to produce color swatch reference data and image data;

building a scanner specific color profile based on the color reference swatch data; and

storing the scanner specific color profile in the scanner.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:

performing color correction on the image data based on the scanner specific color profile.

9. The method of claim 8, repeating the scanning, building, storing and performing color correction steps for each scanning cycle of the scanner.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the color reference swatch and the image are contained in a target sheet.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the color reference swatch is embedded in the bed of the scanner.

12. The method of claim 7, wherein the color reference swatch comprises a CMYK swatch.

13. The method of claim 7, wherein the scanner comprises a non-professional scanner.

14. A computer system, comprising:

a processor; and

color management software executable by the processor to retrieve a pre-stored scanner specific color profile and to automatically perform color correction for a scanner based on the scanner specific color profile.

15. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the color management software automatically performs color correction with each scanning cycle of the scanner.

16. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the scanner comprises a non-professional scanner.

17. A method, comprising the steps of:

retrieving a pre-stored scanner specific color profile for a scanner; and

automatically performing color correction for the scanner based on the scanner specific color profile.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the pre-stored scanner specific color profile is stored by a manufacturer of the scanner.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the scanner comprises a non-professional scanner.